

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

Methods and compositions are provided for the creation and screening of non-human animal models having many of the histologic characteristics of human psoriasis.

- 5 Immunocompromised host animals are injected with a purified population of CD45Rb positive cells, which are tolerant of the host major histocompatibility antigens, but are mismatched at one or more minor antigens. The injected cells are stimulated with a pro-inflammatory cytokine, *e.g.* IL-12, and a polyclonal activating agent. The injected animals develop a chronic skin disorder that includes histological features observed in human
- 10 psoriasis, *e.g.* rete pegs, severe acanthosis and infiltration of Th1 cells into the dermis.